GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2515
ANSWERED ON:17.03.2008
SUBSIDY FOR FARMERS
Subbarayan Shri K.

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the number and percentage of farmers including small and medium farmers benefited with subsidy on power for agriculture;

(b) whether the Government proposes to introduce metering and tariff for big farmers; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE(SHRI KANTI LAL BHURIA)

(a): Section 65 of the Electricity Act, 2003, provides the State Governments the discretion to grant any subsidy to any consumer or class of consumers in the tariff determined by the State Commission by paying the amount of such subsidy to compensate the distribution utility.The distribution of electricity is the responsibility of the State Governments.The information compiled by the Central Statistical Organization on Subsidies in Agricultural Sector does not contain details on number and percentage of farmers including small and medium farmers benefited with subsidy on power for agriculture.

(b) & (c): Section 55 of the Electricity Act, 2003 provides that no licensee shall supply electricity after the expiry of two years from the appointed date i.e. 10.06.03, except through installation of a correct meter in accordance with the regulations to be made in this behalf by the Authority.However, the State Electricity Regulatory Commission may, by notification, extend the said period of two years for a class or classes of persons or for such area as may be specified.